

If you do not pay

the amount of child support that you owe, the following can happen to you:

- **Your driver's license can be suspended.**
- **Personal property including your car, boat, or house can be taken.**
- **Money in your bank accounts can be taken.**
- **You will owe additional interest on the amount of child support you owe.**
- **Your income tax refund can be taken.**
- **You may be put in jail for up to six months, or you may be put on probation.**

You may run away, but you cannot hide from

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to

support your child. Many different ways are used to find parents who move to avoid paying their child support.

love

Being a father means giving your child the following things:

love and attention; food, clothing and shelter; health care coverage; and **financial support** for at least 21 years.

Being a FATHER
is great, as long as
you are Ready
for all that comes
with it.

Having **a child is not a game** that you can walk away from. **It is a lifetime responsibility.**



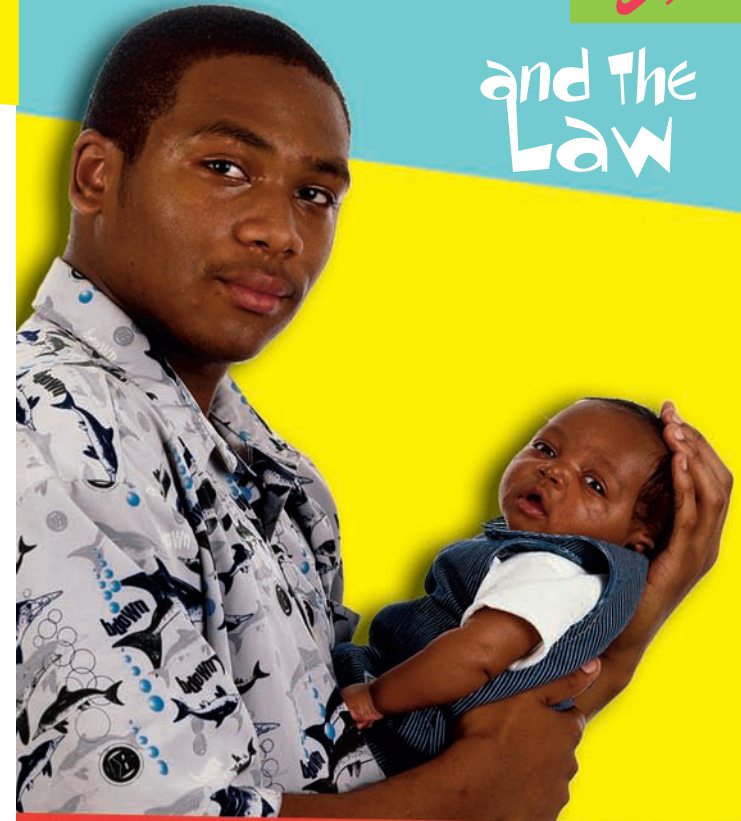
New York State
Eliot Spitzer, Governor

David A. Hansell, Commissioner
NYS Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance
Division of Child Support Enforcement
PUB - 4720

TEEN

Parents

and The Law



Things teenagers
MUST know
about being a
FATHER.

It doesn't matter
how old you are,

Child your child and The law see you as a FATHER, not as a TEENAGER. SUPPORT

It doesn't matter
how old you are.

As the father of a child you will be required to provide for your child. This will involve not only being there emotionally for your child, it also means being there financially.

If you do not have legal custody

of your child, you will have to pay child support. **Child support** is the part of your income that will be used to pay for your child's food, clothing, education and other costs.

You will also need to provide health insurance for your child. If you do not have health insurance through your job, you may have to pay for private health insurance for your child.

You will have to pay child support

until your child is at least 21 years old.

You will owe some amount of child support even if you are a student or do not have a job. You will still have to pay child support even if the mother of your child gets married to someone else, or gets temporary assistance.



If you are not married

at the time of birth, and you deny that you are the **father of the child**, you may have to go to court

to determine that you are not the father of the child.

If you choose to go to court, you may have to pay for the cost of an attorney.

If you are brought to court, the court may order that you take a **genetic marker** or **DNA test** (blood test). The court will use the results of these tests to

determine whether you are the father of the child. If you are found to be the **father of the child**, you may be required to pay the price for your genetic marker or DNA tests as well as the mother and child's tests. You may be brought to court to determine if you are the father of the child up until the child turns 21.

